



State of Utah

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.
Governor

GARY R. HERBERT
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Administrative Services

D'ARCY DIXON PIGNANELLI
Executive Director

J. KIM CHRISTENSEN
Deputy Director

September 30, 2005

Dear Parental Defense Attorneys,

I hope you are well. I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at the first annual Parental Defense conference in Heber City in May. I enjoyed the dialogue, energy and company of all during those two days.

I am writing to inform you that many of the functions and services of the Office of Parental Defense, while still in Administrative Services, are now under private contract. After an extensive Request for Proposal process, Parental Defense Alliance of Utah, a non-profit organization was selected to provide the services of training and communication.

The Parental Defense Alliance of Utah (PDA of Utah) is comprised of three attorneys, John Norman, Michael Thompson and Sharon S. Sipes. PDA of Utah will be doing year-round training and one annual conference for parental defense counsel. In addition, the PDA of Utah will be updating the parental defense website at www.parentaldefense.utah.gov and communicating with you, via e-mails, on a consistent basis.

I hope you will take the time to participate in one of their lunch seminars across the State of Utah and their annual conference. You are invited to communicate with them on issues and concerns. You will soon be receiving a communication from John Norman, Michael Thompson and Sharon S. Sipes of the PDA of Utah. Please take time to get acquainted with them and the services they will be providing. If you would like to contact them, they can be reached at: John Norman, Cell: (801)718-6468 johnbnormanjr@hotmail.com; Mike Thompson, Office: (801) 223-9044 mikethompson59@hotmail.com; Sharon S. Sipes, Office: at (801)394-7870, sssipes@aol.com, or at Parental Defense Alliance of Utah, 60 South 600 East, Suite 200, Salt Lake City, UT 84102.

As the Executive Director of Administrative Services, which has the contract with PDA of Utah, I am interested in your feedback on training and communication as we continue to look for avenues to support you in your parental defense needs. At anytime, if you have comments or questions, you are welcome to contact me at ddixon@utah.gov or 538-3010.

As we enter fall and the approaching holiday season, I wish you and yours, the very best.

Sincerely,

D'Arcy Dixon Pignanelli
Executive Director